# Tree City USA

## City of Mesa

## Application for Fiscal Year 2015

# What is it?

## The Tree City USA® Program

- Sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and National Association of State Foresters

- Provides direction, technical assistance, public attention

- No charge or fees to apply or maintain designation

# Reason for Initiating

- Management Academy recommendation

- Council interest in pursuing

- Currently meet most of the requirements

# Benefits

- Cleaner air, shadier streets, reduce greenhouse gases, lessen the urban heat island and aesthetic beauty

- Serves as a blueprint for planting and maintaining a community's trees

- Encourages better care of urban forests

- Tells visitors, through signage, that here is a community that cares about its environment

- Increases potential for being awarded federal and state tree grants

# Standards Required

1. **Community Forestry Program with an Annual Budget of at Least $2 Per Capita**

2. **Community Tree Ordinance**

3. **Tree Advisory Panel**

4. **An Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation**

# Budget

1. Community Forestry Program with an Annual Budget of at Least $2 Per Capita

# BUDGET
## Community Forestry Program with an Annual Budget of at Least $2 Per Capita

### TREE CITY USA STANDARD 3 WORKSHEET 2015 - City of Mesa

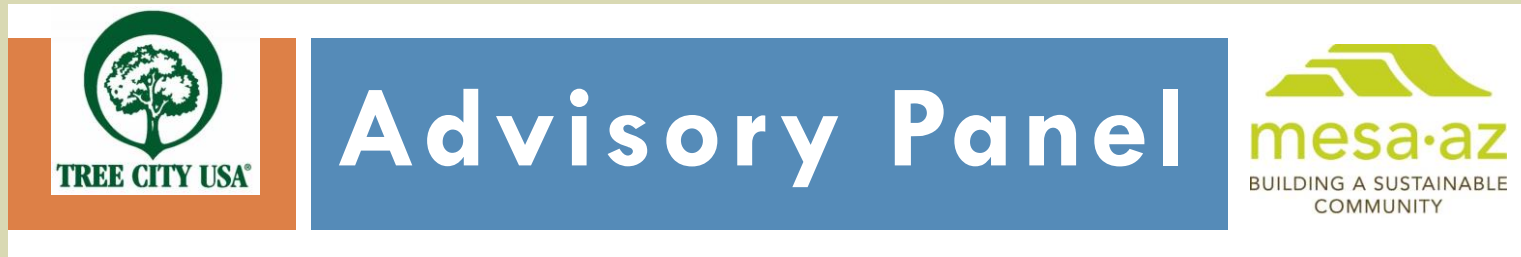| Department | TREES | | | Tree Planting & Initial Care | Tree Maintenance | Tree Removals | Management | Other Misc. Maintenance | TOTALS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Planted | Pruned | Removed | | | | | | |
| Facilities | 6 | 145 | 47 | $3,600 | $62,390 | $5,346 | $71,549 | $2,000 | $144,885 |
| Transportation | 900 | 1,599 | 207 | $25,310 | $62,995 | $29,346.75 | $81,992 | $0 | $199,644 |
| Parks | 119 | 1,872 | 98 | $17,418 | $705,279 | $16,427 | $306,099 | $18,368 | $1,063,591 |
| Environmental & Sustainability | 0 | 0 | 0 | $0 | $0 | $0 | $5,335 | $0 | $3,600 |
| TOTALS | 1,030 | 3,616 | 352 | $46,328.23 | $830,664.81 | $51,119.52 | $463,239.70 | $20,367.70 | $1,411,720 |
| | | | | | | | POPULATION | 464,704 | $3.04 |
| Volunteers | Youth | Adults | | | | | | | |
| Numbers | 28 | 36 | | $3.06 per capita when adding volunteer time. | | | | | |
| Hours | 112 | 144 | | | | | | | |

# Ordinance



## 2. Community Tree Ordinance/Plans

- **Desert Uplands**

- **Citrus Sub-Area**

- **Landscaping Standards**



**Tree and Shade Plan**
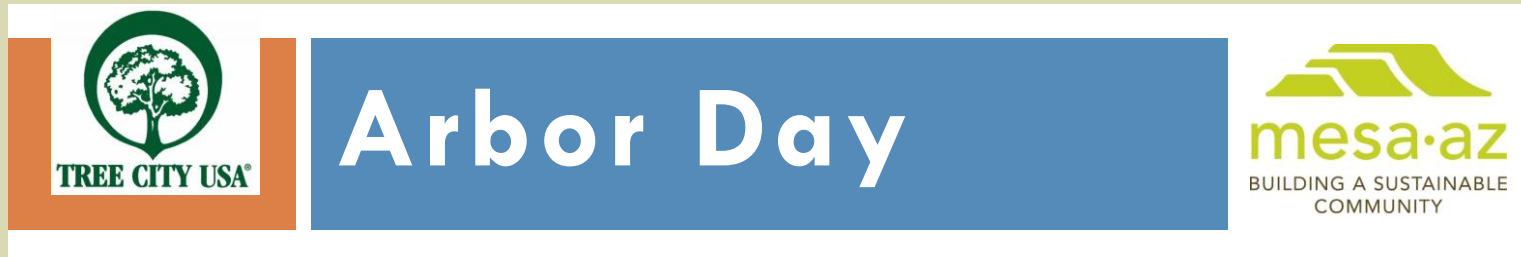
# Advisory Panel

## 3. Tree Advisory Panel

- **Track expenditures**

- **Develop standard tree care practices**

- **Coordinate City Arbor Day celebration**

**Current Tree Advisory Panel (Tree Board):**

- Donna DiFrancesco, Environmental Management and Sustainability
- Zac Koceja and Vincent Bruno, Engineering
- Mark Bragg and Brent Thornton, Parks, Recreation and Commercial Facilities
- Deryl Smith and Mary Croft, Transportation
- David Calloway, Transit

# Arbor Day

## 4. An Arbor Day Proclamation and Observance

- Reach out to community

- Partner w/ local businesses

# Arbor Day Proclamation



Proclamation reading with Mayor Giles, City of Mesa Tree Board members and Eagle Scouts headed up by Benjamin Norris.



Arbor Day Proclamation with Mayor John Giles, Apr. 13

# Arbor Day Observance

Sustainability

Residents » Sustainability

## Arbor Day

Pin it    Font Size: + −    Share & Bookmark    [+] Feedback    Print

Mesa has been named a Tree City USA community by the Arbor Day Foundation for the fifth consecutive year to honor its commitment to community forestry. Becoming a Tree City USA provides a community with a greater ability to improve community urban forests, encourage tree care and planting programs, enhance livable communities, and of course, benefit the environment.

It has been 143 years since J. Sterling Morton founded Arbor Day. His simple idea of setting aside a special day for tree planting is now more important than ever. The 1st official Arbor Day was created by Morton and celebrated in Nebraska in 1872. In the years following that first Arbor Day, Morton's idea spread beyond Nebraska and today all 50 states celebrate Arbor Day. Discover opportunities to celebrate Arbor Day below. Arbor 2015 will be Friday April 24th.

**EVENTS & TREE PLANTINGS**

**RESOURCES**

Landscape Plants for the Arizona Desert*
Landscape Watering By the Numbers*
Xeriscape: Landscaping with Style in the AZ Desert*
Plant Selection and Selecting Your Plants
Planting Guidelines: Container Trees and Shrubs
Pruning Deciduous Shade Trees
How to Hire a Tree Expert
AZ Nursery Association Plant Something video for Arbor Day!

Arizona Community Tree Council
- Watch their great videos
  - How to Plant a Tree
  - Learn About Desert Irrigation
  - Learn Proper Pruning Techniques

**Calling All Artists:** Or at least those in grades K-12. Enter the AZ Arbor Day poster contest and get your artwork on display at the AZ State Capitol. Deadline is April 16.

**Arbor Day Tree Planting:** On April 18, the City of Mesa conducted a tree planting at 2 p.m. at the Pioneer Park, 526 E. Main St.

**Arbor Day Proclamation:** On April 13, the Arbor Day Proclamation was presented to the Mayor.

City of Mesa Sustainability Programs

Earth Day/Arbor Day Events and Information

Contact Donna DiFrancesco with any Arbor Day inquiries! 480-644-3334

City of Mesa supports safe digging when planting trees. Learn more about preventing damage to underground utilities by contacting Arizona Blue Stake.

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mesa·az

April 16, 2015
Public Information and Communications
Contact: Kevin Christopher
Tel. 480-644-4699
kevin.christopher@mesaaz.gov

### Mesa celebrates Arbor Day

**Mesa, AZ** – The City of Mesa has designated Friday, April 24 as Arbor Day to celebrate the City's commitment to tree care and planting programs. Mayor John Giles has issued an Arbor Day Proclamation in honor of the nationally-celebrated observance that encourages tree planting and care. Founded by J. Sterling Morton in 1872, it is celebrated on the last Friday in April.

"Arbor Day promotes how trees in Mesa help clean the air and water, conserves soil and reduces heating and cooling costs by moderating temperatures," Environmental and Sustainability Deputy Director Scott Bouchie said. "Celebrating Arbor Day shows our community values trees not only for their beauty but for their numerous health and environmental benefits as well."

Residents can learn more about Arbor Day and how to properly select, plant and maintain their trees by visiting http://mesaaz.gov/residents/sustainability/arbor-day.

The City will have Arbor Day and Earth Day activities during Celebrate Mesa Saturday, April 18 from noon to 4 p.m. at Pioneer Park, 526 E. Main St. A tree planting ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. Tree value tags will be hung from trees throughout the park showing the dollar value of the environmental benefits including energy savings and carbon reduction. A Living Green village will be set up with workshops from master planters, solar cooking demonstrations, garden tower exhibits, a tree hugging booth and a visit with Mother Nature.

For the fifth consecutive year, The City of Mesa has been named a Tree City USA Community by the Arbor Day Foundation to honor its commitment to community forestry. The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

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Arbor Day, Press Release and Web Page
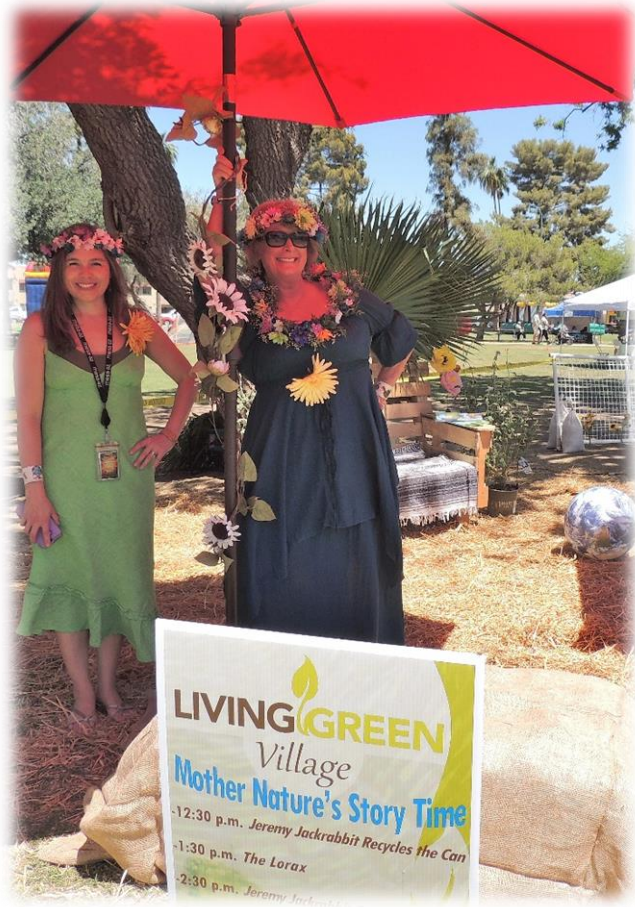
# Arbor Day Observance



Tree Value Tags placed in Pioneer Park during Celebrate Mesa event and around City buildings. Included Mesa Arts Center, AZ Museum of Natural History, i.d.e.a. Museum, Municipal Building (Customer Service and Planning) and Mesa City Plaza (City Hall).

# Arbor Day Observance



This tree gives back
Pine
$ 750°°
Worth of environmental &
aesthetic benefits over
the next ten years.

www.mesaaz.gov/sustainability

Tree Value Tags

# Arbor Day Observance



Lorax Reading by Mother Nature at Celebrate Mesa, Apr. 18 at Pioneer Park (5,000 attended).

# Arbor Day Observance



Tree Planting at Celebrate Mesa, Apr. 18 at Pioneer Park (5,000 attended). West Coast Arborist volunteered time and donated the tree.

# Arbor Day Observance



Tree Hugging Booth and Tree Tag at Celebrate Mesa, Apr. 18 at Pioneer Park (5,000 attended).

# Additional Tree Planting Activities



Trees donated by Clean Air Cab were planted by community members.

Low Impact Development Pilot – Nov. 1, 2014 at Mesa Urban Garden

# Additional Tree Planting Activities



Trees help clean storm water

Low Impact Development Pilot – Nov. 1, 2014 at Mesa Urban Garden - AFTER

# Additional Tree Activities



Four generations of family members from the Emerald Park neighborhood.

NFL Tree Planting at Emerald Park, Jan. 17 for 'greening of the Super Bowl.'

# Additional Tree Planting Activities



Tree City USA Awards and Tree Planting at Arizona State Capitol, Apr. 23

# Additional Tree Activities



Tree City USA Flag flying at Mesa Main Library.

Tree City USA sign at Mesa Park and Ride.



Tree inventory of trees in Mesa Parks. Measuring diameter at breast height (DBH).